

The Bloomfield Citizen.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 1886.

Cheap Fares.

The accounts of earnings and expenses of the New York Elevated Companies for the year ended September 30, 1886, show the following result:

Gross earnings	\$7,426,216.28
Operating expenses	3,960,191.51
Net earnings	3,466,024.77

This is sufficient to pay interest on bonds and rentals with 6 per cent dividends upon an immense amount of watered stock. The increase of passengers for the month of October, 1886, over the same month in 1885 was 3,080,947 or from 9,407,252 in 1884 to 12,488,198. The effect of the reduction in fares to five cents at all hours was shown by the passenger traffic and receipts of the first seven days of November, 1887 and November 1886;

	Passengers	Receipts
Nov. 1886	3,134,806	156,740.30
Nov. 1885	2,048,351	131,787.00
Increase, 1886	1,086,455	21,953.30

In 1885 the fare was five cents during six hours of each week day and ten cents for the remaining eighteen hours; on Sunday it was five cents all day. In 1886 the fare was five cents at all hours day and night over all lines. Here there is a complete demonstration of the wisdom of low fares in the great cities. It is interesting as affording some criterion by which to judge the results of the application of a ten cent rate between Newark and New York about to be tried by the Pennsylvania, Philadelphia and Reading, and the Erie Railway Companies. The application of this rate will be to trains arriving in New York before 7 A. M., good to return on any train leaving New York between 5.30 and 6.30 P. M. inclusive; on Saturday good to return on any train leaving New York between 4.20 and 6.30 P. M. inclusive.

While these reductions, small as they are, do not immediately affect this village, they will no doubt have an indirect effect in lessening fares, for upon their success will depend future extensions of low passenger rates. For obvious reasons the cheap fares upon the elevated roads in New York have retarded the growth of towns in New Jersey. Year by year the upper part of the city is becoming thickly settled, and cheap houses must be sought at a greater distance. Meanwhile the suburban towns of New Jersey furnish abundant room for growth. What is needed more than anything else is an active, energetic spirit to meet each new development of our railroad system. It will not do to sit down and wait supinely for the incoming tide of seekers after homes to build up the waste places and develop our resources. Scarcely one person in twenty is ready to build the bare land and build a home upon it. Hardly one in five can buy a home at all. Men of money, energy, and enterprise are needed to prepare the way for newcomers, to supply them with houses at a moderate rent, and to look after such township interests as more nearly affect the comfort of the household. A great opportunity is coming if only we are wise enough to see and improve it. Already a large number of houses have been built the past season with good financial results. The work should not halt. Cheap fares, cheap rents, and an abundance of houses for all should go together.

Malicious Mischief.

There seems to be no limit to the malicious mischief of which some persons in Bloomfield, presumably the boys who loaf about the streets, are capable. The Township is annually put to considerable expense for repairs to street lamps injured by these hoodlums, and private property has been wantonly destroyed in the same manner.

A number of property owners in Bloomfield have recently attempted to protect their trees from the ravages of the Elm beetle by surrounding the trees with metal tanks. On Wednesday evening one of the tanks which had that day been placed upon a tree on Beach St., was maliciously destroyed. If this sort of thing is to be continued, the people of Bloomfield will find little encouragement toward preserving the shade trees in the town. We are glad to say that a liberal reward has been offered for the apprehension of the persons who were guilty of this outrage, and we earnestly hope that the perpetrators may be caught and severely punished.

A great deal of bragging and self-congratulation in print and conversation has been indulged in of late over the increased amount of stone sidewalks in all parts of the town. This is all very fine and eminently proper, but we fail in our efforts to reach any high plane of enthusiasm on this subject when we remember that just at the very season of the year when a good sidewalk is most to be desired,

the connoisseurs in the matter of safe and comfortable footing are found taking the middle of the road. That season is now approaching and it is to be hoped that the possessor of a stone walk will rise to a proper sense of his responsibilities and buy a snow shovel.

The Smith Family.

The weather was not kind to the Smiths last Friday evening. It blew a gale and rained in torrents. Each wayfarer seemed a centre of attraction toward whom the drops of water blew from every point of the compass and every angle of elevation. The effect was naturally to shrink the audience and dampen the enthusiasm of the performers.

The entertainment provided by the Smiths was enjoyable and was enjoyed, but it lacked the champagne sparkle of last year's production. It is to be hoped that the weather will be more propitious for the next Young People's Evening, for only those who have had experience know what a milestone an unexpected small audience is to a speaker or singer.

LITERARY NOTES.

—On December 15, 1886, the first (the January, 1887) number of Scribner's Magazine will be issued simultaneously in all parts of the United States and Canada. An exception as to date of publication will be made in the case of this initial number, but all succeeding numbers of Scribner's Magazine will be published on the first of the month of which they bear date.

Scribner's Magazine will be in the widest sense a magazine of general literature, and does not propose to set for itself any special limitations other than those of quality in its contents. Its purpose will be to bring together good reading and literature of permanent value; and if it carries out this aim in the best sense, it will make the strongest claim to a really worthy popularity.

Where this main purpose can be helped by the use of the best, most spirited, and faithful illustration of text, this will be freely used. The spirit in which the artistic side of the Magazine will be conducted will be the same as that which will be exercised in choosing its literary contents. Utmost consideration for its main purpose will not be made to any merely pictorial features, and the illustration will be in the best sense illustrative of its text; but its artistic side will not be the least important, and will represent the most spirited, sincere, and original work done in this field.

The contents of the Magazine already determined upon include some very striking papers of unusual novelty. Fiction will be represented by some of the best known American names; but there will be nothing in any way sensational about the character of the early numbers, which will simply be fairly typical of the direction in which Messrs. Charles Scribner's Sons will seek to continue and improve the periodical. The price will be \$3.00 a year, or 25c. for single copies. The first edition of the initial number will be 100,000 copies, and Messrs. Charles Scribner's Sons have abundant warrant for believing that the circulation of the Magazine will exceed that figure.

—The sale of "King Solomon's Mine" has reached 35,000 copies.

—The "Meditations of Abbe Roux," the parish priest of Paris, has quickly gone into a third edition. T. Y. Crowell & Co. are the publishers.

—"My Religion," by Tolstoy, also published by Crowell, has been reduced in price to \$1.00.

—Houghton, Mifflin & Co., are the publishers of no less than seven periodicals, viz., the Atlantic Monthly, the Andover Review, the Church Review, and the U. S. Postal Guide; they also publish the London Quarterly, and the Edinburgh Review.

—One hundred thousand copies of Mr. James Anthony Froude's "Oceana" have been sold in England.

—Of the first volume of Mr. Blaine's book, 75,000 copies have been sold, and of the second 75,000. His copyright has thus far amounted to \$94,000.

—Miss Woolson has a new novel fairly under way. She is living in Italy, just outside of the gates of Florence.

—Miss Murfree's brother has developed literary proclivities like his illustrious sister. He will write an article on "Christmas in Tennessee Mountains," that will appear in the December number of the Brooklyn Magazine.

—Mrs. Burnett's "Lord Fauntleroy" is likely to meet with as much popular favor in book form as it did while running as a serial in St. Nicholas. A first edition of ten thousand copies was exhausted the day of its appearance.

—The Boy's "Book of Famous Rules," published by Crowell & Co., is a handsome volume containing many portraits and biographies of fifteen of the famous kings and generals, of ancient and modern times from Agamemnon to Napoleon.

—Kate Sanborn writes very entertaining and breezy letters to the Boston Beacon.

—Grant Allen's biography of Charles Darwin has been translated into French.

—Mr. Molesworth's holiday book for the young folks will be "Four Wind" Farm, with illustrations by Walter Crane.

—The success of Kidnaped has decided Mr. Stevenson to continue the story in a sequel upon which he is now engaged.

—One of the calendars for 1887 will have a witty selection for each day in the year, taken from Punch. It must represent a vast amount of patient and persistent research on the part of its compiler.

—The life of Chas. Darwin, by his son, will be ready before the end of the year.

—Lovers of Celia Thaxter's poems will appreciate Idylls and Pastorals, a collection of twenty-four of her original poems, illustrated by an equal number of photographs by Kate Greenaway, Howard Pyle, W. T. S. Medley, E. H. Garrett, Jessie C. Shepard, Childie Hassam, Joseph Pennell and others. Twenty-five dollars will purchase one copy of the white calf edition, embossed in imitation of antique carved ivory.

—The title to Jennie M. Drinkwater's new book, Between Times, now in press, very closely resembles Between Whiles, a name which Mrs. Jackson (H. H.) hit upon some time ago, and hoped would be given to a volume of her shorter stories.

—W. D. Howells will contribute a farce entitled "The Mouse-Trap" to the Christmas number of Harper's.

—The first edition of the November Lippincott's Magazine, which contained a complete story from the pen of Mr. John Habberton, was exhausted on the day after publication, and a second and third edition put on the press to answer the demand. The feature of a complete story in each number by a well-known writer will be continued through the coming year. Mrs. Frances Hodgson Burnett contributing to the December number a novel entitled Miss Lefarge; Mr. E. P. Roe, a story entitled A Ghost at Christmas Eve; Mr. Habberton an autobiographical sketch, and Mr. Frank G. Carpenter a paper on the Presidents as Gastronomes.

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Total Losses Paid, nearly
\$1,000,000.00Membership in force Oct. 1st, 1886,
82,481Amount of Insurance in force,
\$160,376,750.00
Assets Oct. 1st, 1886, over 100,000.00
Losses due and unpaid, NONE\$5,000 Accident Insurance with \$35
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